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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 28, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 23 totaled an estimated 15.9 billion ton-miles, 13.5 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The decline was due, in part, to a continuation of severe weather conditions in many sectors of the country, which had a negative impact on the production of some goods that move primarily by rail.

Cumulative volume for the first 4 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 58.1 billion ton-miles, 14.4 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 23 totaled 364,381 cars, 16.6 percent below 1981, but 13.6 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 18.4 percent in the East, 12.6 percent in the South, and 17.7 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 20 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 16 totaled 28,473 cars, up 7.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 53,052 trailers and/or containers, 5.2 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first three weeks of the year was 81,059 cars, 2.1 percent higher than last year, and 149,504 trailers and/or containers, up 4.5 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/23/82:

	<u>Loadings in</u> <u>Week ended</u> <u>January 23, 1982</u>			<u>Change from</u> <u>Corresponding</u> <u>Week 1981</u>		<u>Change from</u> <u>Preceding</u> <u>Week</u>	
	Cars			Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	25,861	D		8,702	25.2	I	3,182 14.0
Other farm products	4,715	I		382	8.8	D	65 1.4
Metallic ores	18,829	D		7,005	27.1	I	1,296 7.4
Coal	104,168	D		7,581	6.8	I	15,839 17.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,685	D		2,769	26.5	I	1,432 22.9
Nonmetallic minerals	10,213	D		3,168	23.7	I	424 4.3
Grain mill products	13,986	D		2,842	16.9	I	580 4.3
Food and kindred products	15,173	D		2,314	13.2	I	1,340 9.7
Primary forest products	16,979	D		2,909	14.6	I	6,196 57.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,558	D		3,494	38.6	I	904 19.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,953	D		4,295	20.2	I	1,035 6.5
Chemicals and allied products	22,482	D		5,777	20.4	I	1,417 6.7
Petroleum products	5,690	D		952	14.3	I	289 5.4
Stone, clay and glass products	9,716	D		4,177	30.1	I	1,233 14.5
Coke	4,371	D		1,745	28.5	D	301 6.4
Metals and products	11,392	D		4,882	30.0	I	999 9.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	12,519	D		3,485	21.8	I	1,305 11.6
Waste and scrap materials	9,494	D		3,748	28.3	I	1,029 12.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,513	D		1,301	13.3	I	935 12.3
All other carloads	39,942	D		1,396	3.4	I	4,462 12.6
LCL traffic	142	D		187	56.8	D	32 18.4
Total Cars Loaded	364,381	D		72,347	16.6	I	43,499 13.6

Corresponding week of 1981 436,728

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total Cars Loaded (4 weeks)	1,334,754	1,607,972	D 17.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
3 Weeks cumulative	42.3	49.5	D 14.7
Week ended January 23	15.9	18.4	D 13.5
4 Weeks cumulative	58.1	67.9	D 14.4